

A PERSONAL NOTE: Happy Birthday to Jack Benny, his 80th on the 14th. More on Jack later.

IN FOND MEMORY: Ira Blue, 64, Jan 8th. Blue was a talk show pioneer and radio personality on KGO, San Fran. Before 1959 when he started with KGO he was sports director for network stations for 27 years in Mexico, Hollywood, and San Fran...Helen Claire, 68, Jan 12. Miss Claire, a radio actress, appeared in Backstage Wife, Evelyn Winters, Myrt and Marge, Mr. Keen, Kitty Kelly and many more. On DR. CHRISTIAN she was the original Judy. As Sally O'Neill in THE O'NEILLs, she had the distinction of being the only heroine ever to die on the air in childbirth, this being the device used to write her out of the series when she was about to go into a play. The play, as it happened, had a short run so she began appearing again on THE O'NEILLs, sometimes in a flashback and sometimes as a ghost...Country Washburn. Washburn sang country and western with the Ted Weems band and appeared on radio with the band when they were on BEAT THE BAND in 1940 and 1941. He wrote One Dozen Roses...Ranald MacDougall, 58, Dec 12, was a writer. He achieved note in 1942 with 2 THIS IS THE WAR radio programs. One of his programs was MAN BEHIND THE GUN which drew critical acclaim in 1943. He also wrote scripts for PASSPORT FOR ADAMS...Robert Coar, 68, Jan 23. Coar was an engineer who handled the technical work on the famed fireside chats of President Franklin Roosevelt...Raymond Henle, 74, Jan 22. Henle won prominence as an anchorman for the NBC radio news show, THREE STAR EXPRESS, a post he held from 1947 to 1965. This gave him a national record for continuous work for a single sponsor the Sun Oil Co and a single network...Arthur Peck, 66, Jan 21. Mr. Peck retired as director of the Columbia Broadcasting System's radio broadcasting operations in 1972...Madaline Lee, Jan 10. Miss Lee played Miss Blue on AMOS AND ANDY. Also on HENRY MORGAN and the SECOND MRS. BURTON.

PUBLICATIONS, ACTIVITIES, ORGANIZATIONS: New Book: THE SOAPS: Madeline Edmondson and David Rounds, 256 pps, published by Stein and Day; \$8.95. It contains many photos and traces the development and history of the soaps. Does anyone know the address of either author or the publisher?...Ken Neal also tells me about WHO'S ON FIRST, a large soft cover book about the careers of Abbott and Costello. No other information. Ken Neal, Box 911, Washington DC, 20044 wants to compile a bibliography of all books related to radio; its shows and performers. He has 10 books himself. It will be a part of a future newsletter but he needs your help. Please send him information about the books you have including title, authors, pages, amount of pictures, publisher, price, address of authors and/or publisher, very short description... Another book is THE GOON SHOW SCRIPTS from BBC File I by Spike Milligan, published by St. Martins Press, New York...The December issue of Cavalier had a lengthy article about Joe Hehn written by John Dunning. John is a collector who now writes full time. Joe is one of our most prolific collectors whose dedication and determination to get the best quality of any show is probably unmatched. Joe has 16,000 programs, all listened to, all carefully organized...Judy Helton, 2920 Paradise Rd, Modesto, Cal 95351 has found a source of RADIO GUIDES from the late 30's. Let Judy know if you think there is an interest in reproducing articles from them...A new record company is Curtain Calls, Box 426, Rego Park, NY. It specializes in nostalgia and has just issued 4 records devoted to Jane Powell, Betty Grable, Alice Faye, and Dick Tracy in B flat, a 1945 AFRS special program...Just received first

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\$4.50 is due FOR ANOTHER YEAR

issue of RADIO IN DEPTH, A BI-MONTHLY MAGAZINE PUT OUT by Records International, Box 3634, Bryan, Tex 77801. A main contributor is Marion David Wedin. It is 16 pages, very small print and well recommended. There are articles about TRUTH OF CONSEQUENCES, Christmas shows, Carlton E Morse, a complete radio log of 1949. Cost is \$3.00 an issue and \$14.00 a year. Only 200 copies were printed (not mimeographed) of this first issue...Gerry Ruark tells me about the Seekers Organization, c/o Stan Olander, 3923 Ganyard Ave, Brunswick, Ohio 44212. For \$2.00 Stan will put you in touch with other collectors to find specific wants. I don't know about this organization first hand but will let you know when I do.

CATALOGS: Dave Siegel, 351 Amherst A, Ticonderoga, NY 12883. Dave has the fastest growing collection of anyone with alphabetical RELISTINGS issues constantly. I just received a complete relisting of many thousand programs. For the most part each reel contains one series or one type of series...Al Grossman, Box 451, Woodland Hills, Cal 91364 Reel 508-553;...Craig Snader Jr, Apartado 12-655, Mexico 12, DF, Mexico; reel 975-43 to 975-50. Highlights include SPECTRUM, USA. and many childrens serials, most not new but all first generation discs...Craig specializes in shows about magic and puts out a related newsletter...Ray Stanich, 173 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, NY 11201; Feb. supplement; RAILROAD HOUR, LIGHTS OUT, PALMOBILE BEAUTY BOX THEATER...Terry Black, 112 Archer A, Springfield, Ill 62704; 3852-4032; GUNSMOKE, new shows from SAME TIME*SAME STATION from KRLA...Bruce Ruggles, Box 1256, North Bay, Ontario, P1B 8K5; 1480-1539; 1948-Oct 8 ARTHUR GODFREY TIME, complete...Earl McCool, 417 Wildhaven, Cir, Gadsden, Ala 35901; Reel 225-355...When sending catalogs please indicate highlights you want mentioned.

PERSONALITIES: Mary Margaret McBride is still broadcasting at 74. She lives in West Shokan, NY and has a weekly 15 minute show on a local station. One of the traits that made Miss McBride loved by America was her candor. She began her radio career playing a grandmother who talked about her many grandchildren on the air. But one day during a performance, she got the names of all her make-believe grandchildren confused and finally blurted out her true identity. And that frankness launched her successful career...Jack Benny was 80 on Feb 14th. In talking about his 2 "farewell" shows (he does not plan to retire), Jack referred to Harry Lauder and Sarah Bernhardt who made so many farewell tours their bye byes could stretch from here to China. The first one who did it was Madame Schumann-Heink, the opera singer...Did you know Jack Benny was the first TV choice to star as the older gent in STEPTOE AND SON lifted from the British series. When Jack turned it down, Red Foxx got the job and colors shifted under SANFORD AND SON to solvent black...Dinah Shore was on Jack's first TV show in 1950 and was on his latest, Jan 24th...According to WHATEVER BECAME OF #4 Eddie Anderson made his first appearance with Jack on Easter Sunday, 1937 as Rochester Van Jones, a pullman porter. He soon had a running role as Benny's valet. One of his main duties was to look after Carmichael, a polar bear Benny kept in the basement to guard his vault. Rochester made frequent remarks about the gas man Carmichael was supposed to have devoured. Rochester had a heart attack during a rehearsal in 1958 and never quite fully recovered.

THE TAPE DECK: Al Grossman asks if anyone has come up with a system of identifying dramatic and comedy shows with no date or title. Typical shows would be GUNSMOKE, FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY, CAN YOU TOP THIS, JACK BENNY, musical shows. I do the following: If it is a musical or quiz show mention the first song, first joke, first contestant, etc. For a comedy show a one or two sentence synopsis is necessary so you

don't duplicate shows. In dramatic shows mention all important characters and brief synopsis. Duplication of GUNSMOKE would be cut down quite a bit if all story characters are mentioned. Some shows such as the Lone Ranger would be difficult to catalog if not for the efforts of certain individuals. David Howe has done an excellent job in cataloging available LONE RANGERS. In this case a standard description should be used. Dave's description of LONE RANGER shows should be the one appearing in your catalog. Dave has his first supplement to his listing. If you want it send him a SASE to Box 21, Birch Harbor, Me 04613. Dave is in the process of writing a publication about the Lone Ranger of at least 50 pages. He needs more articles, information, pictures, addresses of people he can write to. If you have articles xerox copies would be sufficient....Paul Thompson mentions that instead of sending a note with a tape, send separately in case the tape gets lost...Len Lawson, 1206 Notre Dame Ct, Livermore, Cal 94550 still has good prices on Capitol, Scotch, and High Fidelity Recording Tape. Write for price list.....

NOTE: Sal Trapani (SAVE and Renaissance Radio) and Virgil James (Radio Nostalgia) have tentatively decided to collaborate. Both are a one man operation and because of too few hours are unable to do the work they wish which includes answering mail. I will give you details on this when I get it.

NEW ADDRESSES: Don Richardson, 7354 Barnyard Cir, Liverpool, NY 13088...Ralph Miller, Box 92, Wayland, Ma 01778.

HERE AND THERE: New Friends; Edward Bachman, 2009 N Daniel S No 301, Arlington, Va 22201...William Daniel, 8036 Fall River Dr, Dallas, Tex 75228...K Summey, Rt 5 Box 930-K, Charlotte, NC 28208...William Longshaw, 31 Eleanor Ct, Guelph, Ontario, Canada...Richard Stadler, 28 Glen Dr, Nashua, NH 03060...Lawrence Burstein, 5 Beals, Brookline, Ma 02146...Robert Peckrul, 38 Dewey A, Box 202 Plainville, Ct 06062...David Pearsall, 56 R Maple Hill Ave, Newington, Ct 06111...Lawrence de Salvatore, 25 Sachem S, New Britain, Ct 06053...Wayne Haigh, 85 Rogers A, W Barrington, RI 02890...Morton Levine, Box 2183, Enfield, Ct 06082...Dick Sullivan, 20 Ashburton B, Sarsdale, NY 01583...John MacEachern, 21 Fairmont S, Arlington, Ma 02174...Bill Hunt, 150 Alden A, New Haven, Ct...Ross Huntington, Box 331, Bloomfield, Ct 06002...Leonard Riccio, 303 Coram A, Shelton, Ct 06484...Tom D'Antilo, 155 Columbus A, Meriden, Ct 06450...Allen Lingley, 49 Ideal Ct, E Greenwich, RI 02918...Bruce Kalver, 1 Garden Dr, E Providence, RI 02914...G W Vatter, 28 Anchorage Rd, Port Washington, NY 11050...Henry Wardowski, 88 Derby A, Seymour, Ct 06483...E Jean Matheson, 74 Uncas R, Clinton, Ct 06413

HERE AND THERE: Old Friends: Al Grossman is looking for any shows with Cesar Romero...Raleigh Barker, 5520 W 85th S, Overland Pk, Kan 66207 is looking for a soap opera of a family that he heard in the evening in the midwest in the early 40's. The theme was "Moonbeams" from The Red Mill...Ken Neal is collecting anything to do with rock and roll and rhythm and blues of the fifties and early sixties including tapes, information, books. He has several tapes of disc jockeys of the period and is especially interested in shows from WIN3, New York...John Lambrosa, 330 Main St, Penn Yan, NY 14527 wants anything to do with Frankie Lane. Also wants 7 CHESTERFIELD SUPPER CLUB SHOWS from Dec 23, 1948 on...Ken Rettberg, 172 Manor Cir, E Hartford, Ct 06118 is still looking for tapes or ET's of popular pipe organists, Fats Waller when he broadcast from the pipe organ from NBC, and shows by Julia Sanderson and Frank Crumit. Ken has only 1 recorder...Robert Saul, 976 Lorraine A, Union, NJ 07083 is just getting started and would like to

4

receive as many catalogs as possible...Dave Riseman, 33 Fitch Ter, Randolph, Ma 02368 is still looking for THE ALDRICH FAMILY, He has about the largest collection of that show. Also looking for early TV audio, especially SHOW OF SHOWS and TCAST OF THE TOWN...Alex Mc Fee, Box 1105, Banning, Cal 92220 is looking for ARTHUR GODFREY SHOWS from 1940's to last show. Also any of his TV shows. Among things to trade Alex has "B" western movie soundtracks, 80 hours of Bob and Ray... Chuck Huck Jr, 43230 River Rd, Warrenville, Ill 60555 will trade radio shows on reel or cassette for 16mm sound TV shows, especially early ones...Randy Eidemiller, 2448 Marseilles Way, Costa Mesa, Cal 92627 is looking for copies of a west coast series, THE CITY, written by E. Jack Newman. Frank Goss was the narrator. The show was on from about 2/2/47-5/18/47 on KNX...Al Grossman is looking MUSIC OF ROMANCE and anything with Cass Daley...Chuck Huck is also looking for any WW II programs and films, especially news spots and newsreels...Gene Baedak, 1071 Calverhall S, No Vancouver, BC, Canada is looking for SUPERMAN and TARZAN of the late 40's or early 50's....RAY STANICH has designed & built a selectable Notch Filter for 50/60/100/120/200/240 Hz frequencies. He has written an article describing the unit complete with schematics, formulas, parts list and a graph of the notches. I mentioned this last month. He just sent me another diagram redesigning the Notch for more universal applications and by accident designed the best compromise. The 15:75K values are best match for most recorders. Those of you who already sent for a copy last month send another SASE for this latest sheet. Those of you who wants the complete package send a SASE with 2 stamps

LOST AND FOUND: Does anyone know Bret Morrison's new address. His latest newsletter came back unable to be forwarded.

NEW PROGRAMS: Several new SUSPENSE including I Never Met the Dead Man; Track of the Cat; Catch me if you Can (from R Eidemiller)... NOT IN MY COLLECTION: John Dunning, Box 18514, Denver, Col 80218 recently found about 30 discs, mostly juvenile adventure including TERRY AND THE PIRATES, CAPT MIDNIGHT, JACK ARMSTRONG, DICK TRACY, HOP FARRIGAN, SEA HOUND, LORA LAWTON and a new soap opera, SWEET RIVER. He is in the process of transferring them to tape...Dave Siegel just picked up good copies of THORBRIAND THE ADVENTURER, SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT, HOGAN'S DAUGHTER with Shirley Booth...Alan Betz wanted me to mention that the LINIT BATH CLUB REVUE I mentioned he had originated with Larry Kiner, Box 724, Redmond, Wash 98052. He has several of these shows and they may be purchased for \$5.50 each.

RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL: CBS RADIO MYSTERY THEATER: Stations carrying it: WDAF, Kansas City, 11PM; WFBL-AM 1390, Syracuse, 9PM; WHOU-FM 97.3, Ithaca, 10PM; WHAM-AM, 1180, Rochester, 10PM; WBBM-AM, 780, Chicago, 10:30 Central Day Time; XEVIP-AM, 1560, Mexico City, 9PM; WREC, Memphis; THOSE TAPING IT: Allen Rockford, 505 Seeley Rd, Syracuse, NY 13224...James Harpster, 3032 E Glengarry Rd, Memphis, Tenn 38128...E Ellen Robinson, 161 Dorwin A, Syracuse, NY 13205...Ken Piletic, 705 S Oltendorf Rd, Streamwood, Ill 60103...Ray Stanich. REVIEWS: John O'Connor of the New York Times does not give the best review. Although he says the idea and acting is good the scripts aren't. Harry Waters of Newsweek says about the same thing-better material. In 2 weeks 67,000 pieces of favorable mail were received by ~~the station~~ CBS. Direct your comments, favorable I hope, to CBS Mystery Theater, Box 50, Radio City Station, New York, NY 10019...Also taping this show plus ZERO HOUR and BOB AND RAY on Mutual is Herb Carlin, 62 Hilltop Dr, Chappaqua, NY 10514.

OTHER SHOWS: Chuck Schaden has an hour-long radio show on WBEZ-FM, 91.5, Chicago, Thursday and Sunday from 8-9...WFMT-FM, 98.7, Chicago, BBC SHERLOCK HOLMES, Fri, 10:30. Chuck Huck is taping the shows. Carleton Hobbs is Sherlock Holmes...WRVR in New York City is continuing its many shows; X-1, Zero Hour, Sherlock Holmes (BBC), Michelson shows daily...WETA-FM, Washington DC; Mon-Fri, various Michelson shows, 8PM, also GREAT GILDERSLEEVE AND BBC SHERLOCK HOLMES...WMBC-AM, 1340, Auburn, New York; Zero Hour 7:30PM...XEX-FM, 102, Sun 8:30-10PM various shows...A new radio show which will make its debut in March is SOUNDS OF THE CITY, a daytime serial about a black family living in a major city. It will be sponsored by Quaker Oats.

A NOTE FROM JUDY HELTON. Due to a death in the family I will have to postpone putting out tapes for a short while. I am still looking for Arch Oboler material. Also still looking for woman collectors. Contact Judy you girls out there. Judy trades shows and would be interested in buying radios, magazines, etc. On this, my first anniversary in this hobby I would like to pay special attention to some of the people who got me going: D Dodge, R Stanich, L Lawson, R Eidemiller, Jo Anne Verigin, and others.

NOTES FROM MARY JANE HIGBY: The first TV soap opera was a New York City local on Dumont with Pat Wheel, Ruth MacDevitt and John Raby. TV had no money in those days so they devised a script that would require no set, The behind the scenes life saga of a radio soap opera star. It lasted about a year...One of the script writers for RADIO MYSTERY THEATER is Elspeth Eric. She used to be Joyce Jordan, Girl Interne. Another writer for the show is Sidney Slon, another well-known radio actor (THE GOLDBERGS and others). I have taped a show with Guy Sorel...Staats Cotsworth is now married to Josephine Hutchison. His first wife died some time ago.

LATE MAIL AND TIDBITS: Trice Yemm, 426 W Allen, Springfield, Ill 62704...Terry Black, 112 Archer A, Springfield, Ill 62704 is recording CBS Mystery Theater. He also has a quantity of Radio Guides for sale and would like offers. They are from the early 40's and a few from the 30's. A list is available for a SASE...James Sullivan, 811 Crestview Dr, Farmington, New Mex 87401...Robert Heintz, 519 E 4th, Spencer, Ia 51301...Lawrence DeSalvatore has an old time radio club at Irving Robbins Junior High School in Farmington, Ct. Students can make copies of tapes...J F Lovins Sr, 3921 Keokuk St, St. Louis, Mo 63116...LOG: I have a log of FAVORITE STORY complete except for 20 shows. It was compiled by Randy Eidemiller and is available from me for a SASE...CATALOGS: Al Kozeliski, 4789 Onyx Dr, Klamath Falls, Ore 97601; 100 shows...Craig Snader Jr, Apartado 12-655, Mexico 12, D.F., Mexico; relisting; 42 reels; many magic and news programs...Pat Murray, 1756 Washtenaw Rd, Ypsilanti, Mich 48197. complete relisting; 24 musical reels including many bands; many new shows including COLGATE COMEDY HOUR (TV), BROADWAY OPEN HOUSE (TV), CHICAGO THEATER OF THE AIR, LUX RADIO THEATER, STRAIGHT ARROW, CHALLENGE OF THE YUKON, BLUE BEETLE, 4 THIN MAN, SAM SPADE, PHILLIP MARLOWE, ELLERY QUEEN, BUELAH, DRENE SHOW with the Bickersons. 334 reels...

That's it for now. We're a little late (Feb 17) but hope there is something you can use in this issue.

HANG BY YOUR THUMBS and WRITE IF YOU GET WORK

Jay Hickerson

Jay Hickerson, Box C, Orange, Ct 06477 (795-6261)

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